



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit : 1734  
Examiner : Brenda A. Lamb  
Serial No. : 09/628,405  
Filed : August 1, 2000  
Inventors : Ichiro Tanokuchi  
: Sachihiko Iida  
Title : GAS WIPING APPARATUS  
: AND METHOD

Customer No.: 035811

Docket No.: 1299-00

Confirmation No.: 5642

Dated: November 14, 2003

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AMENDMENT

**Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated September 9, 2003, Applicants amend the  
Application as follows: